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The reports show considerable familiarity with the works of international law writers, and painstaking research into the archives of the government and the reports of Congressional debates and of Supreme Court decisions. As a compendium of what statesmen, lawyers, judges, and men of action have thought, advised, decided, and done in connection with some of the most important questions of constitutional and international law that have confronted this country, the book is well worth owning; and, containing as it does the information and the advice on which the present Secretary of War has acted in many cases of far-reaching importance touching the insular possessions, it must remain of permanent interest. Some of the reports contain original legal work by the writer; but in many the work is mainly compilation, the contribution of the writer being largely in the nature of a running narrative to connect numerous and lengthy citations from the sources mentioned above. The volume has an excellent index.

THE LAW OF INTERPLEADER as administered by the English, Irish, American, Canadian, and Australian Courts, with an Appendix of Statutes. By Roderick James MacLennan. Toronto: The Carswell Company, Limited. London: Stevens & Sons, Limited. Boston: Boston Book Co. 1901. pp. xxix, 464. 8vo.

Interpleader is a proceeding by which a person in the position of a stakeholder may compel two or more adverse claimants for the same property to litigate their rights among themselves. In the early common law the remedy lay only when, after a joint bailment, the bailee was in doubt as to which bailor had the rightful claim. The legal remedy being thus clearly inadequate, chancery early took jurisdiction and gave relief when a stakeholder, who claimed no interest in the property and was under no independent liability, desired to determine which of several claimants asserting title from a common source was the true owner. To avoid the litigation of legal claims in a court of equity, interpleader statutes now generally authorize proceedings in common law courts.

The present author is apparently the first to attempt to cover the entire subject. More than half of the book relates solely to matters of procedure. The remainder deals with the elements of the right of interpleader, but confines its discussion largely to the English and the Canadian law, making only occasional references to the American. A complete collection of local statutes and an exhaustive list of cases are included in the volume. It is apparent from the nature of the work that it will prove serviceable as a practical manual, though perhaps to English more especially than to American lawyers. It will be of distinct value also to the student who is interested in observing the different rules prevailing in the various jurisdictions in the same small field of the law.

To the doctrine of *Crawshaw v. Thornton*, 2 Myl. & C. 1, the author has devoted an entire chapter. He concerns himself, however, mainly with the growth of the principle of independent liability, without entering upon a searching investigation of the reason underlying it. He concludes, in accord with the recent statutes, by adopting the liberal view that the mere fact that a stakeholder is under an independent liability to one claimant should not deprive him of the valuable remedy of interpleader. This mode of treatment is typical of the entire book. The theory of the subject is discussed but briefly; for interpleader as a remedy is based largely on considerations of practical convenience. The trend of legislation and decision, however, is considered at generous length, and the present state of the law is concisely summarized.

SOCIOLOGIC STUDIES OF A MEDICO-LEGAL NATURE. By Louis J. Rosenberg and N. E. Aronstam. Introduction by Clark Bell. Chicago: D. P. Engelhard & Company. 1902. pp. 137. 12mo.

The authors of this little volume, one of whom is by education a lawyer and the other a physician, have here with slight modifications gathered under a